

The Great War—1218th Day

Artillery Duel
Raging Along
Italian FrontLull in Infantry Fighting
While Both Armies
Mass ForcesEither Side May
Take OffensiveFrench and British Troops
Behind Piave Line for
Emergency

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Both sides on the Italian front have discontinued infantry operations and appear to be concentrating on battery fire and energetic preparations behind the front. Observers here consider either a large scale Allied offensive or a new Teuton blow at another part of the Piave front a probability.

A great artillery duel is reported both from the Piave River line and from the mountain sectors between the Brenta and upper Piave and east of the Asiago Plateau.

No mention has yet been made of new French or British troops being in action on the Italian front. But they are known to be just behind the lines in great force. Being close at hand, they could immediately be thrown into a breach should an emergency arise. A new German coup is thus rendered somewhat remote.

On the extreme right of the Italian line a British monitor, one of the flotilla co-operating with the Italian navy, made a direct hit on a pontoon bridge thrown across the Piave near Passarella by the Germans. The bridge was severed.

Italian aviators continue to annoy the enemy on the Venetian plains. The Rome official statement to-day told of the successful dropping of explosives on an enemy encampment between Feltrina and Fossano, or near where the battle line leaves the Piave.

Berlin continues silent regarding all details of the Italian campaign, possibly through lack of anything cheerful to describe.

Teutons Massing
For New Blow on
Italian Front

(By The Associated Press)
ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS
IN ITALY, Nov. 29.—The lessening of the intensity of the enemy attacks along the northern front is regarded as forecasting the moving of activity to other points, either for massed attacks or in preparation of defensive positions capable of meeting the Italian, reinforced by the British and French, in a concerted advance.

Aviators report that the enemy is feverishly active along the Tagliamento River, where he is compelling the civilian population to assist in the construction of lines of defensive trenches and works on the eastern bank of the river, to which he probably would fall back in case of a reverse along the Piave.

Improved conditions are reflected in Italian finances, and exchange on the British sovereign has jumped nine lire within one week. The sovereign a week ago was worth 42 lire, but British officers now arriving get only 33 lire on a pound, or a net change of nine lire in favor of Italian money.

American Officers in Italy
The arrival of a number of American officers is regarded as highly satisfactory, and perhaps significant of coming events. Up to the present the American government has required military and naval observers to remain comparatively inactive in Italy, so as not to affront Austria-Hungary, with whom America is at war.

Official Statements

West Front
BRITISH

LONDON, Nov. 30 (DAY).—A German raiding party which endeavored to approach our lines yesterday evening in the neighborhood of Gavrelle was driven off by our fire before reaching our trenches.

The enemy's artillery was active during the night and day, and also at a number of points southwest and west of Cambrai. (NIGHT).—At 5 o'clock this morning, after a violent bombardment, the enemy attacked with strong forces on a wide front south of Cambrai, between Vendhuile and Crescourt-Bucloscourt. Shortly afterward heavy attacks also developed against our positions west of Cambrai, in the neighborhood of Bourlon Wood and Margreux.

From Masnières to Muevres all the enemy's attacks have been repulsed after many hours of heavy fighting, during which great loss was inflicted on the attacking German infantry by our artillery and machine gun fire.

South of Masnières Village, from the neighborhood of Bouzies to Villers-Guislain, the enemy succeeded in entering our positions at different points and penetrated as far as La Vaque and Guescourt. Our counter attacks have already regained La Vaque, and we have driven back the enemy from Guescourt and the ridge to the east of that village. At other points the enemy's advance has been checked. The fighting is continuing.

GERMAN

BERLIN, Nov. 30 (DAY).—Army Group of Prince Rupprecht. In Flanders spirited artillery duels developed in the afternoon from Houthulst Wood to Zandvoorde, with the greatest violence in the region on both sides of Poelcapelle and north of Gheluvelt. Our storming troops pressed forward into the enemy lines near the coast and in various sectors of the battlefield, and brought back numerous French and British prisoners.

Near Arrmentieres and Lens and southeast of Arras there was increased artillery firing. On the battlefield near Cambrai the British, after a violent bombardment, attacked early in the morning west of Bourlon. The attack was repulsed with heavy losses. In the afternoon the artillery duel again assumed considerable intensity between Inchy and Fontaine. In the region of St. Quentin the artillery was more active.

Army Group of the German Crown Prince. An enterprise by our storming troops north of Arrmentieres and Lens was repulsed.

Teutons Use Italian Women as Shields
Place Them With Children in Front of Advancing Troops; Non-Combatants Massacred

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—All the oppressive measures which characterized the German invasion of Belgium and France, many of the acts of barbarism which revolted the civilized world, semi-official dispatches from Rome to-day say, are now being practised by the Austro-German invaders of Italy.

Near Zenson the dispatches say, the invaders placed Italian women and children before the troops as they advanced, and the Italian soldiers were compelled to sacrifice them.

In the Friuli region war taxes, requisitions and conscription of labor are being practised, as they were in Belgium and Northern France. Austro-German prisoners tell of Italian non-combatants massacred by the invading troops, and loot from Italian houses and shops has been found on the bodies of dead troops. Soldiers on the Piave declare they hear the screams of women and children from the opposite side of the river.

The invading armies have taken away cattle and other property and burn household furniture for their bivouac fires at night. Bosnian troops, the dispatches say, have committed unnamable atrocities.

Health in U. S. Camps Shows Improvement
Measles and Pneumonia Being Combated by U. S. Physicians—157 Deaths

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Slight improvement in health conditions in the National Guard and National Army camps for the week ended November 23 is shown by the weekly health report of the division of field sanitation, made public to-day by Surgeon General Gorgas.

The epidemic of measles in the 31st Guard Division appeared to be over, the number of cases decreasing by 479. Pneumonia cases, however, increased from 45 to 159. The 36th Division shows an increase in the number of cases of measles from 744 to 1,028. In the 36th Division measles cases increased by 180, but pneumonia cases increased from 10 to 68. The 81st National Army Division showed an increase of 243 cases of measles.

The total deaths reported for the week in the National Guard was 97 and in the National Army 60.

Americans Help
British Smash
Hindenburg LineEngineers Do Good Work
in Offensive Before
CambraiLay Rails Under
Heavy ShellfireMen Volunteer as Stretcher
Bearers and Bring In
the WoundedReprinted in part from late editions
of yesterday's Tribune.

(By The Associated Press)
BRITISH ARMY HEADQUARTERS
IN FRANCE, Monday, Nov. 26 (Delayed).—American engineers, the first American troops to be engaged in military operations on the British front, took a prominent part in the breaking of the Hindenburg line by General Byng last week. Military necessity has made it impossible to speak of their presence before, but it is now possible to inform the people of the United States that engineers of the American army had a large part in pushing up the vital railways behind the advancing British soldiers.

As a matter of fact, the American engineers have been laboring on the roads through the devastated battlefields of the Somme district for nearly four months, and two of their men, who were wounded, were the first American casualties announced from Washington.

The speed with which the lines have been laid through the broken Hindenburg defenses during the past week has called forth the highest praise from the British authorities. The Americans have been working in shifts twenty-four hours a day, and no such amount of track has been laid in this region in so short a time before. The manner in which they stood up under the strain has led to their being dubbed the "force of American athletes." For these untiring soldiers are to-day as fit and as willing as they were before the battle began.

Cool While Shells Burst
Naturally, the Americans have for a long time been working under the range of enemy artillery, and under the searchlight beams of the enemy's searchlights. One of the most striking sights along the front has been that of the engineers laboring coolly at their tracks while great shells were bursting one hundred yards away.

At one time the Germans cut loose with their guns on a section of the tracks and tore up three miles of rails which had been laid with much labor, but the Americans had finished this bombardment when the twin lines of steel began to creep forward once more. After the engineers had reached a point where they were exposed on the skyline it was necessary to work at night or on foggy days in order to avoid enemy observation.

There have been three bodies of Americans employed in this region since about August 1. Two of the bodies have been occupied with the operation and maintenance of light railways and the other has been constructing narrow gauge lines. The importance of this work hardly needs emphasis, for it is well known that the successful movement of food, ammunition and material of all sorts are putted up to lend support to the fighting forces.

All Men Are Fit
The correspondent has visited many of these engineers since their arrival and has found them as fit as possible and eager for work. Most of them undoubtedly look forward to the time when they will be able to join the American forces, but just now they are content to do their bit here and to learn valuable lessons in military roadbuilding.

The correspondent was talking with three officers to-day, and the only anxiety they expressed about the future was the fear that they might later be compelled to work far back of the lines, out of the fighting zone. The engineers had to hear the guns and to get as close to the firing line as military orders permit. Some of them had an unusual experience, much to their liking, on the first day of the offensive.

The British called for volunteer stretcher bearers to go forward to the battlefield and bring in wounded British and German soldiers. A large number of the engineers offered their services, which were accepted. They just had finished a hard day's work on the railway, but they gladly undertook the new, arduous and dangerous task and labored through the night getting injured soldiers back to the dressing stations. They were highly complimented by the British for their efficiency in this line of service.

of Braye met with complete success, and prisoners were captured. In the Sunday there has been lively activity by the French in the course of the last week.

In aerial engagements and by fire from the ground our opponents have lost thirty airplanes and two captive balloons.

(NIGHT).—On the battlefield near Cambrai the new struggles that developed have so far been successful for us.

PARIS, Nov. 30 (DAY).—The night was calm over the whole front, except in the Argonne, where the artillery on both sides showed particular activity, and in the region of Chambois, where, after a series of violent bombardments, the enemy undertook a large raid, in which he was repulsed completely.

(NIGHT).—No infantry action was reported during the day. The artillery was rather active in the region north of the Chemin-des-Dames and on the right bank of the Meuse.

Italian Front

ROME, Nov. 30.—The artillery struggle, which has been growing more intense on the whole front, was particularly brisk in the region of Meletta, on the Asiago Plateau and on the plains along the middle and lower Piave.

In the coastal area a British monitor obtained a direct hit and severed a bridge of boats which the enemy had thrown across the river in the vicinity of Passarella.

Above Asiago an enemy airplane was downed in an aerial combat. Last night the enemy encampment between Feltrina and Fossano was bombarded effectively by our machines.

Balkan Front

ARMY OF THE EAST, Nov. 30.—The artillery was rather active toward Dolan, in the Cerma Bend and to the north of Monastir. French and British batteries successfully carried out destructive firing and caused the explosion of an ammunition depot in the direction of Monte. A strong enemy patrol was repulsed.

French aviators carried out several bombardments in the Vardar Valley and to the north of Monastir. Three enemy airplanes were brought down.

Turks Preparing
Counter Blow to
Save Jerusalem

LONDON, Nov. 30.—The Turks and Germans in Palestine are feeling out the British positions along General Allenby's whole front, apparently with the object of making a counter offensive to free Jerusalem from the threat of capture and give them the seaport of Jaffa again.

In the course of these attacks, General Allenby reported, according to an official statement made public here to-day, the enemy made the additional site of the tomb of the Prophet Samuel the object of their principal effort.

They bombarded the mosque erected on the site, "held in equal reverence by Christian, Mahometan and Jew," says the communiqué, and destroyed the minaret.

The hostile attempt at this site, which is now called Nebi Samwil, and is near the extreme right of the British line, resulted in no advantage for the enemy.

Fifty men from an English eastern county attacked a hundred Turks in a post on the Kallat-el-Ajaj, a small village, near the village of the enemy detachment, and carried off prisoners and a machine gun.

General Allenby reported that on Tuesday and following days the Turkish-German forces made "demonstrations" on almost the whole front from five miles northwest of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean. The only serious attack was on Nebi Samwil, as just described. But the statement gives the impression the enemy operations were undertaken to gain information on the military position of the British and to be the directing mind of the foe in this theatre, may soon have more ambitious designs.

Airplanes continue a prominent feature of the battling over the Biblical land. In one encounter, General Allenby's cables, three British machines were attacked by five hostiles. They drove down one enemy plane and damaged another.

Pershing Reports Five More Deaths Behind the Lines
WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—General Pershing to-day reported the following deaths:

Private William E. McGee, Engineers, November 27, septicaemia, general following amputation of his leg; emergency address, Mrs. Marie McGee, Osgood, Mo.

Private Clinton J. Hardwick, Engineers, November 26, cerebral spinal meningitis; emergency address, D. W. Monroe, Chadbourne, N. C.

Corporal Floyd May, Field Artillery, November 27, possibly accidental gunshot wounds; mother, Mrs. Isabelle May, Livermore, Ky.

First Class Sergeant Charles C. Hartman, November 25, Medical Evacuated Reserve Corps, lobar pneumonia; emergency address, Cora C. Hartman, 1094 Main Street, Bridgeport, Conn.

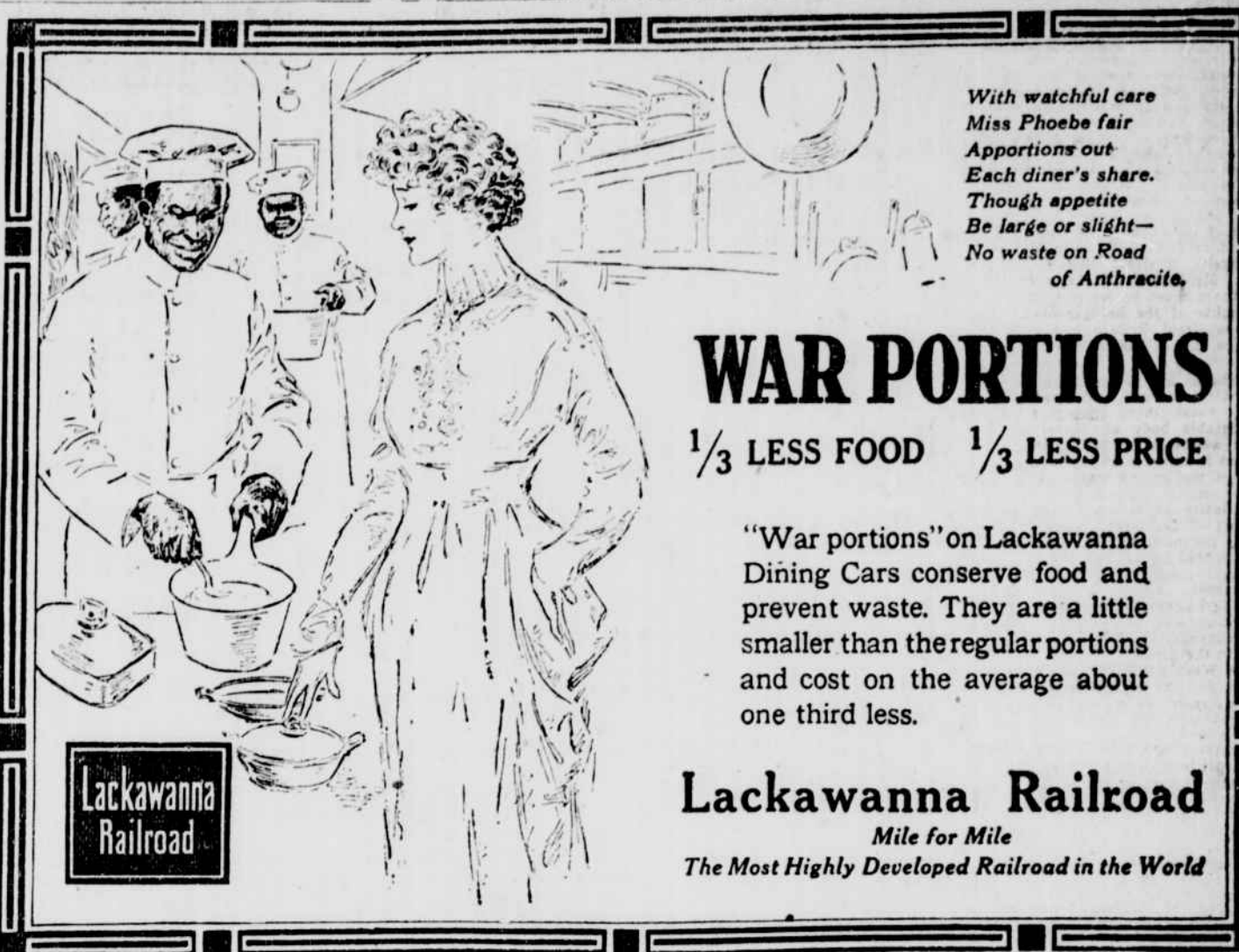
Corporal Frank J. Necon, Infantry, November 25, broncho pneumonia; emergency address cannot be identified.

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British Women Tending More Than
50,000 Soldiers' Graves in France

Auxiliary Corps Members Conduct Army Postoffices and Act as Cooks, 'Phone Girls, Chauffeurs and Typists at Front, Says Miss Helen Fraser, Organizer, Who Arrived Here for Lecture Tour

Miss Helen Fraser, whose position is best described as that of "handy woman around Great Britain," because of the many branches of war work in which she has engaged, arrived in this country yesterday for a lecture tour. She will talk to Vassar College girls on December 3 and to the National American Woman Suffrage Association in Washington on December 13. She will tell to American women the story of how England's women responded to the need of their country.

She told the story of the "canary girls," as the girls whose hair and skin are yellowed by the fumes in munitions factories are called. Many girls have died from too long exposure to the "TNT" fumes, although the "canaries" can be cured if released in time, Miss Fraser said.

Enlisting 40,000 More
The "canaries" marched in the Lord Mayor's parade in London on November 10, the first time that women had ever been allowed in that august procession, Miss Fraser said. With them marched munitions workers and "land girls," English for farmettes.

"We are enlisting forty thousand more 'Waacs'—that is, members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps—to serve at the front in France," she went on. "The new work the women are doing over there is tending the soldiers' graves. There is one place where for fifteen miles there are nothing but headstones. Fifty thousand English soldiers are there. The girls keep a written record of every soldier who is buried there and put flowers on the graves. The French government has donated land for graveyards, but often a soldier is killed on private property and has to be buried there, and the 'Waacs' take all the care of his grave."

"The 'Waacs' have been put to work in the army postoffices, where three million letters are handled daily. They also do the cooking for many army corps and serve as telephone girls, storekeepers, chauffeurs, and stenographers for the officers. No girl 'Waac' may converse with a man officer and no 'Waac' officer may play tennis or walk in the gardens with any private, even if the private is her brother. The 'Waacs' are paid a little better than the men soldiers, but they have to pay their hotel bills out of their wages."

Now Making Airships
"The sensitive, skillful fingers of women have found another work for their country in the welding of parts of airships. They are working on batonettes, too. One man with a big yard on the Clyde has declared he will have one destroyer built entirely by women."

Miss Fraser worked on the first committee to get the girls back to the land, and since then she has been on government boards for patrolwomen, who are "chaperones" in munitions cities and near army camps and on food conservation committees and hospital boards. Her biggest work is a bureau of occupation, which guides women into work for which they are best fitted. Her last job was as lecturer and organizer for the National War Savings Committee, which floated the billion-pound loan.

She is in charge of forty thousand war savings associations, which inspire small savings in schools, churches, factories and other local groups. She worked in eight counties in England and Wales.

Lauds Communal Kitchen Plan
"Communal kitchens are the best method we have found of dealing with the food problem," said Miss Fraser. "We found that the British working people were accustomed to eating great quantities of bread with their meals, instead of taking the trouble to cook potatoes and other vegetables. We serve these communal dinners, with vegetables, at a low price. The people come with their plates and get the dinner."

Miss Fraser said she had five brothers in the war, and none had been killed. One was disabled in the Somme push last year and another is chasing submarines—"the only person I know who enjoys the war."

Rainbows Left
Week of Oct. 15
Only a Few Persons Saw
Them Leave Mineola
Encampment

It was in the week of October 15 that the men of the Rainbow Division left Camp Mills, just outside of Mineola, Long Island.

The morning before the men in the Louisiana troops rolled down the canvas which marked the site where General W. A. Mann, commander of the 42d Division, and his staff, had made their headquarters. It was monotonously like the glorious autumn mornings the men of the Rainbow Division had wearied of. The skies were clear and brilliant and there was the faintest touch of cold in the air.

But it was vastly different, for with division headquarters down they knew that the trip to France, for weeks the predominant motif of their dreams by night, loomed dead ahead.

There had been all the uncertainty of the man poised on the edge of a deep abyss. Now all that was gone. They were joyful in the consciousness that the "one big day" in France for which they were living, that day when they would be called on to "go over the top" and give, perhaps, all they had to give, was a vast step nearer.

It was the biggest day these soldier boys had known. Sunset did not bring the usual exodus to Hempstead and the nearby villages. Night came and found every man in camp waiting.

At 11 o'clock the buglers sounded "officers' call." One hour later the great body of the troops knew they were leaving Hempstead Plains the following morning. There was no heavy equipment to take. All that had gone two weeks before. The horses had gone a week before. All each man had to do was to pack his heavy marching equipment and sit tight until the order came.

Nineteen thousand men took part in that first movement. It began early in the morning. Contingents from twenty-four states left in the first batch. Eight thousand men, including units from Alabama, Ohio and the 166th Infantry, New York's "Old 69th," did not go that morning.

The movement began at 3 a. m. A yellow moon hung like a skull in the skies as they tramped out of camp. They marched quietly. Down Clinton Road they swung the ranks solid. The sound of the road was lined with the men who were not going yet, their faces white in the dark. There were no cheers. It was solemn departure.

The trains began hauling them away, but the morning sun found others still marching from camp.

Eight o'clock came and with it a rush of people from Mineola, Hempstead and nearby towns. Now there were cheers and shouts. By eleven o'clock the last of the first 19,000 men had left. The trains carried them to Long Island City, from where they proceeded to the transports waiting for them under steam and ready to put out to sea.

A week later the "Old 69th" and the other remaining units left. Their departure was staged in the early afternoon. This time there were crowds, mothers, and sweethearts and brothers. With the 69th in France to-day, the last standing Colonel Charles Hine, the commander of the Irish unit, made to the correspondents at Camp Mills takes on a deep significance.

He had been urged to say something the day before he led his men from camp. He had been told: "Remember, this will be your last word to the mothers of the boys under your guidance."

"I know the responsibility that rests on me as the commander of perhaps the best known National Guard unit in the country," he said. "I accept it. I mean that in the fullest sense. We will not be found wanting."

Five Americans With Canadian Forces Killed
OTTAWA, Ont., Nov. 30.—The following American names appear in today's Canadian casualty list:

Killed in action: J. O'Connor, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. A. Roy, Biddeford, Me.; August Hermann, Petersburg, N. D.; Jackson Howard, Wakonda, S. D.; T. E. Burchell, New Haven.

Died of wounds: O. Boggart, Van Etten, N. Y. Wounded: F. Conway,

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Fall River, Mass. Gassed: V. C. Cochran, Middlebury, Vt.
Ill: H. B. Otis, Marquette, Mich.; A. P. Larsen, Duluth, Minn. Gassed: Corporal J. T. Riley, Paoli, Ind.
Wounded: Corporal George B. Carney, North Yakima, Wash.; F. B. Ro-mine, Atwood, Ill.; Daniel Labelle, Duluth, Minn.
Wounded (returned to duty): N. J. Trautman, Buffalo; A. E. Cook, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.
Missing: Jacob Netchin, Chicago.

Brig. Gen. Mallory Commands Camp Dix
CAMP DIX, N. J., Nov. 30.—Major General Chase W. Kennedy, in command here since the National Army cantonment first opened, left camp to-day and was succeeded by Brigadier General J. F. Mallory, the ranking brigadier, heretofore in command of the Depot Brigade.

General Kennedy, the official announcement of the change says, will go on "detached service at training camps." Lieutenant Colonel E. T. Collins, his chief of staff, has also been withdrawn, and Lieutenant Colonel W. C. Johnson will take his place.

Most of the men here will go to Franklin Field, Philadelphia, to-morrow, where the camp football team meets the eleven from Camp Meade. Officers here are puzzled by the large proportion of conscientious objectors among the arrivals in the last draft. The matter will be investigated by the camp authorities.

British Casualties
In November 120,089
LONDON, Nov. 30.—British casualties reported during November day and night were as follows: Officers killed or died of wounds, 1,152; men, 24,292; officers wounded or missing, 3,537; men, 91,105.

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